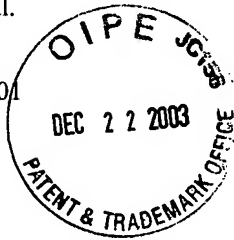


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3738

Applicant: SHAPIRO et al.  
Serial No.: 10/004,467  
Filed: 23 October 2001  
Confirmation No.: 6551



Examiner: ISABELLA, D.  
Group Art Unit: 3738  
Docket: 9124.103USC1  
Notice of Allow. N/A  
Date:

Due Date: N/A

Title: POLYSACCHARIDE SPONGES FOR CELL CULTURE AND TRANSPLANTATION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 17, 2003.

By:   
Name: Heidi McCarty

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**23552**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:


We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Communication, Form 1449
- ☒ Return postcard

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Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By:   
Name: Gregory A. Sebald  
Reg. No.: 33,280  
GAS:hjm



S/N unknown

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	SHAPIRO et al.	Examiner:	ISABELLA, D.
Serial No.:	unknown	Group Art Unit:	3738
Filed:	23 October 2001	Docket No.:	9124.103USC1
Title:	POLYSACCHARIDE SPONGES FOR CELL CULTURE AND TRANSPLANTATION		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 17 December 2003.

By:   
Name: Heidi McCarty

COMMUNICATION

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Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Dear Sir:

Pertaining to the above-referenced patent application, Applicants enclose herewith a Form PTO-1449 to supplement the Information Disclosure Statement filed 23 October 2001.

In the Office Action of 9 April 2003, Examiner refused to consider several references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement due to incomplete information. Accordingly, please find enclosed a Form PTO-1449 providing the year, and month, if known, for those references previously unconsidered.

As noted in the Information Disclosure Statement filed 23 October 2001, a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is not provided because it was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/180,970 filed on 17 November 1998, and in divisional application, U.S. Serial No. 09/416,911, filed 13 October 1999.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

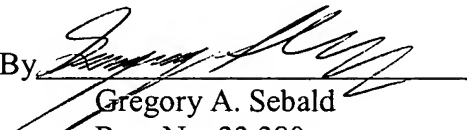
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

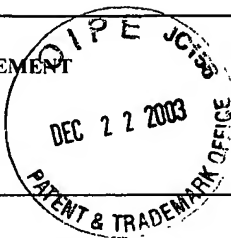
Dated: 17 December 2003

By

  
Gregory A. Sebald  
Reg. No. 33,280

GAS:hjm

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 9124.103USC1	Application Number: 10/004,467
	Applicant: SHAPIRO et al.	
	Filing Date: 23 October 2001	Group Art Unit: 3738



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES NO
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
		Yannas, I.V.A. <i>Chem. Int. Ed. Eng.</i> , Volume 29, pg 20-35 (1990).				
		Natsume, et al. <i>J. Biomed. Mater. Res.</i> Volume 27, pg. 867-875 (1993).				
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		Mikos, et al. <i>Biotech Bioeng.</i> , Volume 42, pg 716-723 (1993).				
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number:</b> 9124.103USC1	<b>Application Number:</b> 10/004,467
	<b>Applicant:</b> SHAPIRO et al.	
	<b>Filing Date:</b> 23 October 2001	<b>Group Art Unit:</b> 3738

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	Brunk et al. <i>Analytical Biochem</i> , Volume 92, pg. 497-500 (1979).
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